

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace page 34, ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE with the following amended paragraph:

Methods and compositions are provided for analyzing intracellular events employing fusion proteins comprising the small β -galactosidase fragment fused to a protein of interest or fragment thereof. By expressing the fusion protein in a cellular host, one can determine the effect of various agents on the activity of the fusion protein, adding the large β -galactosidase fragment to the fusion protein, either intracellularly or in a lysate and determining the activity of the formed β -galactosidase using a substrate that forms a detectable product. In this manner, degradation, complex formation, RNAi (ribonucleic acid interference) inhibition or other situation that affects β -galactosidase activity can be determined.